

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is requested.

By the present amendment, Claims 1, 10 and 14 have been amended to more specifically define the nature of the medicine cartridge. A brief telephone discussion with Examiner Lam on February 26, 2003, concerning this amendment is acknowledged, and where in the Examiner tentatively indicated that this amendment may obviate the existing rejection on art.

In particular, Applicant has contended that the claims of this application, before amendment, patentably defined over the cited patents to Righi and for reasons more specifically set forth in previous responses. The Examiner has contended that the language of the claims before the present amendment was such that the recited cartridge could be the needle 4 of Righi. While Applicant disagrees that needle 4 of Righi could reasonably be called a medicine cartridge particularly in view of the other language of the claims, it was felt best to more specifically define the medicine cartridge so as to obviate that rejection and even improve the claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that Righi does not disclose the combination of any of the present claims, particularly wherein a medicine cartridge (which is defined in the recited "body") is further defined as "medicine cartridge therein comprising one of a syringe, ampoule or vial for containing medicine."

In addition, dependent Claims 25 through 28 have been added to even more specifically define the cartridge as a prefilled syringe or unit dose syringe as further described on pages 26 and 27 of the present application.

In view of the foregoing, favorable reconsideration of this application is requested. A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge Counsel's Deposit Account No. **150665** for any additional fees that may be required and to credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account **150665**.

Respectfully submitted,

Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP

Dated: March 3, 2003

By: 

Samuel B. Stone
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 19,297

4 Park Plaza
Irvine, California 92614-2558
(949) 567-6700